

investigation into alleged post-impact fuel-fed fires in these vehicles. Under the terms of the settlement, General Motors provided \$51,355,000 to support safety programs that will prevent thousands of deaths and injuries. In return, the agency closed the investigation.

The petition did not provide any new information that reasonably could lead to reopening the settlement agreement. The central issue is whether the petition has presented new evidence that bears on the issue of whether a safety defect exists. No new information was presented on this issue. The only "new" information presented in the petition was the suggestion of a particular repair for these vehicles. However, even in vehicles found to be defective, NHTSA has no statutory authority to require a manufacturer to provide a particular repair. See 49 U.S.C. 30120.

For these reasons, and because there is no reasonable possibility that the action requested by the petition would be undertaken, the agency denied the petition.

Authority: Section 124, Pub. L. 93-492; 88 Stat. 1470 (49 U.S.C. 30162); delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: February 12, 1996.

Michael B. Brownlee,  
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance.

[FR Doc. 96-3606 Filed 2-15-96; 8:45 am]

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#### [Docket No. 95-90; Notice 2]

#### **Decision That Nonconforming 1992 Lincoln Mark VII Passenger Cars are Eligible for Importation**

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of decision by NHTSA that nonconforming 1992 Lincoln Mark VII passenger cars are eligible for importation.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the decision by NHTSA that 1992 Lincoln Mark VII passenger cars not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because they are substantially similar to a vehicle originally manufactured for sale in the United States and certified by its manufacturer as complying with the safety standards (the U.S. certified version of the 1992 Lincoln Mark VII), and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

**DATES:** This decision is effective February 16, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5306).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Background**

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30141(a)(1)(A) (formerly section 108(c)(3)(A)(i) of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act (the Act)), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. § 30115 (formerly section 114 of the Act), and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the Federal Register of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the Federal Register.

Champagne Imports, Inc. of Lansdale, Pennsylvania (Registered Importer R-90-009) petitioned NHTSA to decide whether 1992 Lincoln Mark VII passenger cars are eligible for importation into the United States. NHTSA published notice of the petition on November 15, 1995 (60 FR 57479) to afford an opportunity for public comment. The reader is referred to that notice for a thorough description of the petition. No comments were received in response to the notice. Based on its review of the information submitted by the petitioner, NHTSA has decided to grant the petition.

##### **Vehicle Eligibility Number for Subject Vehicles**

The importer of a vehicle admissible under any final decision must indicate on the form HS-7 accompanying entry the appropriate vehicle eligibility number indicating that the vehicle is eligible for entry. VSP-144 is the

vehicle eligibility number assigned to vehicles admissible under this decision.

#### **Final Decision**

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby decides that a 1992 Lincoln Mark VII not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards is substantially similar to a 1992 Lincoln Mark VII originally manufactured for sale in the United States and certified under 49 U.S.C. § 30115, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141 (a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: February 13, 1996.

Marilynne Jacobs,  
Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.  
[FR Doc. 96-3561 Filed 2-15-96; 8:45 am]

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#### [Docket No. 95-89; Notice 2]

#### **Decision That Nonconforming 1994 Mercedes-Benz SL280 Passenger Cars Are Eligible for Importation**

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of decision by NHTSA that nonconforming 1994 Mercedes-Benz SL280 passenger cars are eligible for importation.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the decision by NHTSA that 1994 Mercedes-Benz SL280 passenger cars not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because they are substantially similar to a vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified by its manufacturer as complying with the safety standards (the 1994 Mercedes-Benz SL320), and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

**DATES:** The decision is effective February 16, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5306).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Background**

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30141(a)(1)(A) (formerly section 108(c)(3)(A)(i) of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act (the Act)), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor